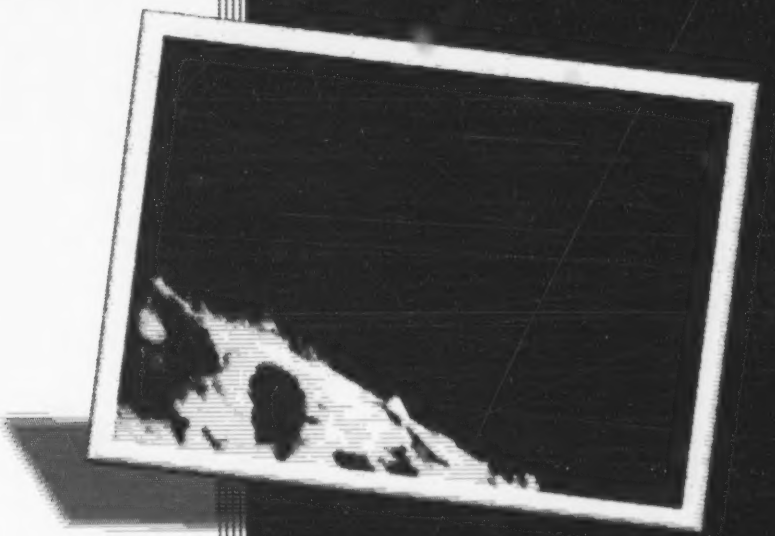
Status Report to December 2010

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION 2008-2012



Minister's Message

I am pleased to provide a status report on the Department of Environment and Natural Resources' (ENR) Framework for Action 2008-2012. The status report highlights the Department's activities on actions undertaken from June 2010 to December 2010. During the past six months progress on several major action items has been made.

ENR is responsible for the continued delivery of the GNWT's Greenhouse Gas Strategy. With increasing concern about climate change, ENR initiated the process of renewing the Greenhouse Gas Strategy. The Revised Greenhouse Gas Strategy for 2012-2017 is scheduled to be released in the spring/summer of 2011 with consultations taking place in all regional centres.

The department continues to expand waste reduction initiatives and programs. The Single-use Retail Bag Program will be implemented on February 1, 2011. ENR continues to investigate e-waste approaches in other jurisdictions and the cost of implementing a similar program in the NWT.

Wildlife management remains a major priority for this government. The NWT Bison Management Strategy 2010-2020, was released in December 2010 to guide the development of population-specific management for wood bison and aid in their recovery. Public meetings and consultation with Aboriginal governments to discuss the NWT Wildlife Act were held throughout the NWT with plans to introduce a proposed new Wildlife Act for review by the Legislative Assembly.

ENR has undertaken a number of actions to improve and support current knowledge of the NWT environment. Field work for the Boreal and Taiga Cordillera and its analysis was completed in July 2010 with the report and accompanying poster published in October 2010.

Traditional knowledge continues to play an integral part of operations at ENR. The second Traditional Knowledge Annual Report will be released in the spring of 2011.

I encourage all NWT residents to continue their involvement in the protection of the NWT environment and the conservation of our valuable natural resources.

J. Michael Miltenberger

1. Governance

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Timeline		Status
			Original	Revised	
1.1 Consultation Framework for ENR	*1.1.1 Develop a consultation framework for ENR based on the GNWT's Approach to Consultation with Aboriginal Governments and Organizations*	ENR Consultation Framework	June 2009	September 2011	An ENR Consultation and Engagement Document Template and User Guide was created. A guideline document is being developed and scheduled for completion by late summer 2011.
1.2 Land Use Decision Support Tools	*1.2.1 NEW Implementation of Technology Infrastructure to support land information management and information sharing*	Core services and prototype	March 2011		Work is currently underway finalizing and developing the infrastructure within the GNWT.
	1.2.2 NEW Develop data information inventory methodologies and tools	Data/information classification guidelines;	December 2011		Currently creating interdepartmental working groups to support the initiative.
	1.2.3 NEW Identify priority areas for collaboration between government agencies for the sharing and acquisition of new data and information	GNWT Land Information Acquisition Report	March 2012		Currently creating interdepartmental working groups to support the initiative.
1.3 NWT Protected Areas Strategy (PAS)	*1.3.1 Develop a preliminary map of important wildlife areas in the NWT.*	Preliminary map of important wildlife areas in the NWT	December 2009	July 2011	A report for the western NWT has been written and will be released with maps in 2011.
	1.3.2 Prepare a Five-Year PAS Action Plan for 2010-2015.	Five-Year PAS Action Plan: 2010-2015	March 2010		✓ **Completed** The GNWT has signed off on the Establishment Action Plan: 2010-2015. Final document is now available on the PAS website. http://www.nwtpas.ca/

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	1.3.3 Work with Nunavut to implement the Thelon Management Plan.	Implementation plan and status report	March 2010	To be determined	This project has been postponed due to lack of resources.
	1.3.4 Use ENR legislation, such as Critical Wildlife Areas, to sponsor candidate sites.	*Candidate site(s) process underway using ENR legislation*	December 2011		In March 2010, ENR announced it will sponsor Buffalo Lake and Trails as a Critical Wildlife Area. ENR is conducting a GNWT internal review of the proposed Yambahti Critical Wildlife Area to determine if the GNWT should sponsor it.
1.4 Managing Landscape Change	*1.4.1 In partnership with industry and Aboriginal organizations and boards, identify management actions to reduce and mitigate impacts on boreal caribou and their habitat from resource development.*	Action plan and status report	December 2009		✓ **Completed** The Action Plan for Boreal Woodland Caribou Conservation in the NWT 2010-15 was released in September 2010.
	1.4.2 Report on the Environmental Stewardship Framework (ESF) *and* Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program (CIMP), *progress.*	Progress report	December 2009 and then annually		The Final 2010 NWT Environmental Audit Report is to be released by April 2011. In the 2010 Budget Speech the federal government committed $8 million over 2 years for the NWT and Nunavut to address cumulative impacts.
1.5 NWT Science Agenda	*1.5.1 Identify ENR research needs and research priorities.*	Annual action plan and status report	June 2009 and then annually	Annually	Identification of long term research needs and priorities has been integrated into the ENR business planning process. A draft 5 year wildlife research plan is being reviewed by wildlife co-management boards.

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	1.5.2 Work with other GNWT Departments to prepare a GNWT Science Agenda.	GNWT Science Agenda	September 2009		✓ **Completed** Building a Path for Northern Science: GNWT Science Agenda was tabled in the Legislative Assembly in November 2009.
1.6 ENR Succession Planning	*1.6.1 Work with the Department of Human Resources to develop a Succession Plan.*	Succession Plan	December 2010	December 2011	Following the development of the GNWT Succession Planning Framework by the Department of HR (March 2011), an ENR Succession Plan will be developed.

2. Climate Change, Energy Efficiency and Alternative Energy

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Timeline		Status
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2.1 Energy and Climate Change	*2.1.1 Work with energy partners to prepare detailed plans for action on enhancing use of alternative energy sources (biomass, geothermal, wind).*	Alternative energy action plan(s) and status report(s)	December 2009		✓ **Completed** The NWT Biomass Strategy was finalized in February 2010. A Northwest Territories (NWT) Geothermal Favourability Map was completed in March 2010. Wind monitoring has been conducted in areas of wind energy potential. Energy partners are now using the products and information to prepare detailed proposals and secure funding for alternative energy projects.

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	2.1.2 Support actions identified in the NWT Greenhouse Gas Strategy and report progress annually.	Progress report	April 2009 and then annually	Annually	A report on the status of all actions was prepared in February 2010. A review of actions is being conducted as part of the process to renew the Strategy for the period beyond 2011.
	2.1.3 Support NWT residents, businesses and communities to reduce energy consumption and implement alternative energy solutions.	Support programs - Alternative Energy Technologies Program (AETP); Energy Conservation Program; and Energy Efficiency Incentive Program	April 2009 and then annually	Annually	ENR has three programs designed to reduce energy use and promote alternative energy. In 2009/10 the AETP, the Energy Conservation Program and the Energy Efficiency Incentive Program combined provided $428,532 for 830 projects that will result in an estimated annual savings of $740,700 to NWT residents, businesses and communities and an annual reduction of 2110 tonnes of CO_2 emissions. Subscription to these programs continued to be high this fiscal year and similar results are expected.

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	2.1.4 Work with the Tuktoyaktuk Development Corporation and a wind energy developer to install wind turbines in Tuktoyaktuk.	Installation of wind turbines in Tuktoyaktuk	July 2011	Unknown	In September 2010, the Tuktoyaktuk Development Corporation (TDC) withdrew support for the project and ended the joint venture with Dowland Contracting to build, own and operate the project. The Class A estimate for the Project is $4.5 million. ENR has identified $1.8 million in the Energy Priorities initiative for this project. The Project will require a local partner in Tuktoyaktuk and additional funding from a federal partner if it is to be built.
	2.1.5 Undertake a review of the NWT Greenhouse Gas Strategy and release an updated Strategy for 2012 – 2017	Updated NWT Greenhouse Gas Strategy	June 2011		ENR has initiated the process of renewing the current Strategy. The renewal will proceed in five steps: background research, stakeholder engagement, development of a public discussion paper, public meetings, and the finalization of a renewed Strategy.
2.2 Climate Change Adaptation	*2.2.1 Prepare and release a climate change impacts and adaptation plan developed in consultation with affected departments.*	Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation Plan	December 2009	December 2011	The NWT Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation Report was completed in 2008. Preliminary work has started on the Adaptation Plan and ENR has hired a climate change specialist who will complete the plan.

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2.3 Climate Change Network	*2.3.1 Provide communication and coordination support to organizations involved in greenhouse gas mitigation and climate change adaptation.*	Establishment of organizational support	September 2009	February 2010	✓ **Completed** ENR has established a network of contacts to provide input during the review and update of the Greenhouse Gas Strategy. Over the coming year this network will be broadened and enhanced to provide input on the Adaptation Plan and to provide a venue for circulation of climate change information.

3. Environmental Knowledge

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Timeline		Status
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3.1 Classifying and Mapping Ecosystems	*3.1.1 Complete and publish ecological land classification for the Taiga Shield Ecozone.*	Ecozone classification map and descriptors	March 2009		✓ **Completed** Ecological land classification for the Taiga Shield Ecozone has been completed. The Taiga Plains (Mackenzie Valley) and Taiga Shield (forested areas north and south of Great Slave Lake) reports and posters have been distributed to the public (schools, industry, land and water boards, communities, etc) and are available on the ENR website.
	3.1.2 Complete and publish ecological land classification for the Cordillera Ecozone.	Ecozone classification map and descriptors	April 2010	July 2010	✓ **Completed** The field work for the Boreal and Taiga Cordillera and the analysis is complete. The report and poster were published in October 2010.

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	3.1.3 Complete and publish ecological land classification for the Southern and High Arctic Ecozones.	Ecozone classifications map and descriptors	September 2011		Fieldwork for the Southern Arctic Ecozone was completed in the summer of 2009. The analysis and reporting will be completed by the fall of 2011. The first season of the High Arctic Ecozone field work is underway. A second season is planned for July 2011. The analysis and final report will be completed in the spring of 2012.
3.2 Gathering Baseline Information and Monitoring Cumulative Effects	*3.2.1 Expand the existing air quality network into small NWT communities.*	Network expanded and operational	June 2009	Unknown	Efforts to secure funding to expand the air quality monitoring have been unsuccessful. ENR is not currently pursuing this expansion.
	3.2.2 Review available baseline data on wildlife and vegetation and develop a plan to address data gaps to ensure cumulative impacts and landscape change are well monitored and assessed.	Action plan to address data gaps	December 2009	17th Legislative Assembly	This action has been deferred to develop a comprehensive path forward on ENR's role in cumulative effects management.
	3.2.3 Implement programs through the Western NWT Biophysical Study to address gaps in baseline data and information and enhance monitoring of cumulative impact indicators.	Implementation of program(s); status report	December 2010		A report on 2008/9 and 2009/10 - NWT Biophysical Program project has been completed and is in the process of being printed. The Department is continuing with projects on boreal caribou, barren-ground caribou, bison, and grizzly bears.

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3.3 Building a Forest Management Information System	*3.3.1 Design and develop a Wildfire Management application (EMBER Module).*	Wildfire Management (EMBER) Application	September 2009	March 2010	✓ **Completed** The EMBER system has been implemented for the 2010 fire season. Users have been trained and the system has been installed. Users are now using EMBER as their primary fire management software. Administrative modifications based on the first year of use are in development and testing for implementation by the 2011 wildfire season.
3.4 Environmental Assessment Tracking System (EATS)	*3.4.1 Design, build and implement the EATS system to better manage the GNWT's environmental assessment processes and associated information management library.*	Environmental Assessment Tracking System operational	June 2009		✓ **Completed** EATS was formally implemented in April 2009. Tracking of obligations from past Reports of Environmental Assessment is now underway. EATS is currently undergoing an enhancement cycle. These enhancements should be available for release by March 2011.
3.5 Compliance Database	*3.5.1 Design, build and implement the Compliance Management Information System (CMIS). CMIS will enhance the ability for the Department to effectively carry out the compliance duties of its Officers through enhanced case management and intelligence collection functions.*	Compliance Management Information System Operational	June 2010	March 2011	A request for proposals (RFP) for the development/acquisition of software has been completed. Recommendations are being prepared for ENR Senior Management to select a suitable product based on the results of the RFP.

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3.6 Reporting on the Northwest Territories "State of the Environment"	*3.6.1 Develop a 'State of the Environment' report on the NWT environment, focusing on its air, wildlife and forests.*	NWT State of the Environment Report	June 2009		✓ **Completed** The NWT State of the Environment Report has been completed and the Highlights Report published.
	3.6.2.Develop a special report on State of Biodiversity to celebrate International Year of Biodiversity 2010	NWT State of Biodiversity Report	March 2010	May 2010	✓ **Completed** The NWT State of the Environment 2010 Biodiversity Special Edition was tabled on May 19, 2010.
3.7 Traditional Knowledge (TK) Policy Implementation	*3.7.1 Work with Aboriginal governments and partners, including communities and regional resource management agencies, to support the implementation of the ENR TK Implementation Framework.*	Implementation plan and status report	March 2009		✓ **Completed** The ENR TK implementation plan has been completed. An annual report on ENR activities for 2010/11 to be completed by February 2011.
	3.7.2 Develop and implement protocols with regional Aboriginal governments and agencies to access and share TK.	Protocols for information access and sharing	June 2012		Research continues into protocols for general TK information access and sharing. Protocol work is also being undertaken to develop a standard TK water monitoring protocol.
	3.7.3 Work with the GNWT Interdepartmental TK Working Group to develop a plan for government-wide implementation of TK Policy	GNWT TK Implementation Framework	September 2012	March 2009	✓ **Completed** The GNWT TK Framework was completed in March 2009. Work will continue on developing individual department plans, as required.

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	3.7.4 Implement the TK Policy Implementation plan for ENR	Workshops for all employees. Best Practices Guide distributed	March 2010	March 2011	Six workshops have been held. Best Practices Guidelines are being distributed at workshops.
		Grant and Contributions agreement in place to carry out TK research	March 2011		Four communities have put forward proposals for TK research with relevance to ENR programs. The proposals are currently being reviewed.

4. Environmental Stewardship

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Timelines		Status
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4.1 Past Environmental Legacies	*4.1.1 Work with the federal government to develop and implement a comprehensive plan for managing contaminated soil along the Northern Transportation Route (NTR).*	NTR contaminated soil management plan	December 2009	Ongoing until remediation of the entire route is complete.	In the summer of 2010 the remediation of Peregrine Street in Fort Smith was completed with the removal of the residual contamination to storage. All of the known uranium ore impacted materials in Fort Smith associated with the NTR have been addressed. ENR continues to press Natural Resources Canada for a further assessment of the Bennett Field site given use of the area by Tulita residents.

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	4.1.2 Report progress on implementation of the approved closure and reclamation plan by Miramar Northern Mining Ltd. (MNML) (formerly Miramar Con Mine Ltd).	Progress report(s)	Ongoing until remediation of site is complete and continued site monitoring		Reclamation of the mine site continues. ENR is receiving regular updates from Miramar on cleanup activities, future activities, and timelines. Remediation work is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2012.
	4.1.3 Support the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB) processes to complete the Environmental Assessment for Giant Mine's remediation in partnership with the Giant Mine Remediation team.	N/A	December 2009	December 2011	ENR continues to work with the Giant Mine Remediation Office to complete the environmental assessment (EA) process. The Developers Assessment Report has been submitted and accepted by the Board.
	4.1.4 Address recommendations resulting from the review of the Giant Mine Remediation Plan and begin remediation of the Giant Mine site.	N/A	September 2010 (begin remediation)	September 2012 (begin remediation)	Upon completion of the EA process, ENR will work with the Giant Mine Remediation Office to implement the approved remediation plan.
4.2 Waste Recovery Programs	*4.2.1 Introduce a Paper Products Diversion Initiative to provide financial support for NWT businesses, municipalities and environmental groups to investigate and/or pilot creative solutions for diverting paper products from community landfills.*	Paper Products Diversion Initiative status report	June 2009		✓ **Completed** A Paper Products Diversion Initiative has been initiated and will run for three years. ENR will report on the initiative annually.

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	4.2.2 Implement actions to reduce the use of single-use retail plastic and paper bags including introduction of a fee on single-use retail bags.	Environmental fee for single-use retail bags introduced	September 2009	January 2010	✓ **Completed** The Single-use Retail Bag (SRB) Regulations came into force on January 15, 2010. The Regulations apply a 25 cent environmental fee to SRB's used in NWT grocery stores. The Regulations expand to apply to all retailers on February 1, 2011.
	4.2.3 Add milk containers to the Beverage Container Program.	Updated Beverage Container Program Regulations	June 2009	February 2010	✓ **Completed** The addition of milk and milk substitutes to the Beverage Container Program came into effect on February 15, 2010.
	4.2.4 Determine the appropriate approach to, and the setting up of a comprehensive electronics waste recovery program in the NWT.	Discussion Paper	September 2010	September 2011	ENR will investigate e-waste approaches in other jurisdictions and the potential costs of implementing similar programs in the NWT. Detailed studies of the financial viability of the most promising approaches will be conducted as funding permits.
4.3 Best Management Practices, Standards and Guidelines	*4.3.1 In collaboration with Environment Canada and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, develop NWT-wide Guidelines for Seismic Operations, to address the ecological impacts of seismic operations in a proactive manner.*	Guidelines for Seismic Operations in the NWT	March 2009	August 2011	Public consultation was completed in October 2009. ENR, Environment Canada (EC), INAC and Fisheries and Oceans have agreed to use the INAC handbook format for the final publication to be released in the summer of 2011.

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	4.3.2 Develop 'air quality best management practices' for the oil and gas industry, including exploration, preliminary processing and transport.	Air Quality Best Management Practices	December 2009	Unknown	ENR will work with EC and National Energy Board on the development of effective base level industrial emissions requirements for oil and gas operations in northern airsheds. This work will proceed under the comprehensive air management strategy developed under the Canadian Council of Environment Ministers.
	4.3.3 Identify additional 'best management practice' guidance documents for minerals, oil and gas development, and other industrial activities to reduce and mitigate environmental impacts, especially on forests, wildlife and habitat.	Review of Guidance documents and list of guidance documents to develop or update	Summer 2010 and annually	Annually	✓ **Completed** ENR has reviewed existing ENR and federal regulators' guidance/regulatory documents to identify duplication and gaps. Work is underway on guidance for the management of domestic wastes in NWT based industrial camps. Input is provided annually on guidance documents prepared by the federal government and regulatory boards.
4.4 Managing Shared Wildlife Populations	*4.4.1 Conduct an independent peer review of barren-ground caribou survey methods and outcomes.*	Independent peer review	March 2009		✓ **Completed** The independent peer review has been completed. Barren-Ground Caribou Management in the NWT: An Independent Peer Review was tabled in the Legislative Assembly in March 2009.

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	4.4.2 Develop a Five-Year NWT Barren-ground Caribou Management Strategy 2011-2015.	NWT Barren-ground Caribou Management Strategy 2011-2015	June 2010	February 2011	ENR is releasing the draft strategy for public review in February 2011.
	4.4.3 Develop agreements with the Governments of Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Yukon and Nunavut on the management of shared wildlife populations, including polar bears, barren-ground caribou and boreal caribou.	Bilateral agreements on shared wildlife populations for each jurisdiction	December 2010	December 2011	An agreement on shared boreal caribou populations has been completed with Alberta. A draft Nunavut/NWT polar bear management agreement has been completed. A format for barren-ground caribou management agreement has been agreed to by Yukon and Nunavut.
4.5 Species at Risk	*4.5.1 Develop a NWT Bison Management Strategy.*	NWT Bison Management Strategy	December 2008	December 2010	✓ **Completed** An NWT Bison Management Strategy has been completed.
	4.5.2 Develop a NWT Action Plan for Boreal Caribou.	NWT Action Plan for Boreal Caribou	June 2009		✓ **Completed** ENR Implementation Plan has been developed with input from Regional Staff.
	4.5.3 Develop Wood Bison Management Plans for the Liard, Mackenzie and Slave River Lowland Populations.	Management Plans for each population	December 2010	March 2012	Initial meetings of joint planning committees established with communities will be held in the spring of 2011.
	4.5.4 Update the General Status Ranks of Wild Species in the NWT 2011-2015.	Status report	June 2011		The status report will be published by April 2011.

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4.6 Environmental Legislation					
4.6.1 Species at Risk Legislation	*4.6.1.1 Introduce the NWT Species at Risk Act.*	Species at Risk Act introduced in Legislative Assembly	December 2008		✓ **Completed** The new Species at Risk (NWT) Act came into effect in February 2010.
	4.6.1.2 Implement actions under the NWT Species at Risk Act.	CMA and SARC Annual reports	June 2010 and then annually		✓ **Completed** Staff for the new Secretariat has been hired. A second meeting of the new Species at Risk Committee (SARC) was held in September 2010. A first meeting of the Conference of Management Authorities (CMA) was held in June 2010. An initial list of species to be assessed has been approved and work on species status reports has begun. First annual SARC and CMA annual reports have been submitted.
	4.6.1.3 Sign Bilateral Cooperation Agreement on NWT Species at Risk.	Bilateral Cooperation Agreement	March 2010	December 2010	The Government of Canada is completing its final review of the agreement.

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4.6.2 A New Wildlife Act	*4.6.2.1 Release a draft Wildlife Act for public consultation*	Draft NWT Wildlife Act	March 2011	December 2010	✓ **Completed** A draft Wildlife Act was released on November 24, 2010 for public review and discussion. During November and December 2010, public meetings were held throughout the NWT and Aboriginal organizations were consulted. Comments will be accepted until January 4, 2011. The Wildlife Act Working Group will review all input January 10 – 14, 2011 and the Act will be revised accordingly.
	4.6.2.2 Introduce the revised Wildlife Act.	Introduce revised Wildlife Act in Legislative Assembly	December 2011	March 2011	Work is underway to introduce the Wildlife Act in the February/March Session of the Legislative Assembly.
4.6.3 Forest Management Legislation	*4.6.3.1 Identify framework components and major steps for development of new forest and fire management legislation and policy.*	Forest Management Legislative and Policy Framework	December 2008		✓ **Completed** ENR has received the final report on major steps towards legislative and policy framework for the NWT, prepared under contract by KBM Consulting.

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	4.6.3.2 Develop draft action plan for new forest and wildland fire management legislation and policy.	Forest Management Legislative and Policy Action Plan	June 2009	September 2011	ENR has contracted a consultant to conduct background research and issues scoping on forest policy and legislation. This work was completed in May 2010. Next steps are to develop a draft action plan and schedule to completion, with dates to be determined. The Draft action plan and schedule will be completed by September 2011.
	4.6.3.3 Develop and implement regulations that require issuance of an Incidental Timber Harvesting Permit when cutting trees related to an industrial development activity.	Incidental Timber Harvesting Regulations	December 2009	September 2011	Consultation with Justice has resulted in understanding of the issues and solutions for the creation of an Incidental Forest Use Authorization and implementation under the current land management jurisdictions in the NWT. ENR is seeking discussions with INAC on the shared implications of the revised *Regulations* and the application of the *Forest Resources Transfer Agreement.* Consultation on the draft regulations has been deferred until the *Wildlife Act* consultation process was completed. ENR now intends to complete consultation and bring forward the draft change to the *Forest Management Regulations* for implementation by September 2011. Meetings with DIAND to resolve issues of joint management jurisdictions will occur over the next few months.

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4.7 Maintaining Forest Fire Management Services Program Effectiveness	*4.7.1 Conduct a review of ENR's strategic approach to wildland fire management that includes recommended changes. This will include a review of how the NWT Forest Fire Management Policy is implemented related to values at risk and the need to consider natural resource values such as habitat and needs of migratory species such as caribou.*	Discussion paper	September 2009	February 2011	Initial Community consultation was undertaken during 2008-2009 in a sample of communities. Issues and concerns identified in the consultations formed part of the Terms of Reference established for a Wildland Fire Management Program Review. Facilitated Community workshops, with the support of consultants with expertise in fire management policy reviews and targeted discussions was completed in October 2010. A final report on issues and recommendations will be provided by February 2011.
	4.7.2 Develop a Forest Fire Management Action Plan to address issues or gaps identified through the aforementioned review.	Forest Fire Management Action Plan	December 2009	May 2011	Based on results obtained above, and internal analyses of operational issues, a plan of action on the recommendations of the Wildland Fire Management Program Review will be prepared for discussion and approval by May 2011. Changes to internal procedures and decision processes will be considered for implementation in the 2011 wildland fire season.

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4.8 Wildland Fire Management					
4.8.1 Protecting Communities from Forest Fire	*4.8.1.1 Develop FireSmart interface fire management plans for Fort Smith, Kakisa and Tsiigehtchic.*	FireSmart plans for each of Fort Smith, Kakisa and Tsiigehtchic	December 2009	March 2010	✓ **Completed** Community Wildland Interface fire management plans have been completed for Fort Smith, Tsiigehtchic, Kakisa, Fort Providence, Norman Wells, Enterprise, Jean Marie River and Fort Good Hope. Plain language versions are being prepared.
	4.8.1.2 . Develop FireSmart interface fire management plans for Hay River, Hay River Reserve, Fort Resolution, Fort Simpson, Trout Lake, Wrigley, Fort Liard, Lutsel K'e and Tulita	FireSmart plans for each of Hay River, Hay River Reserve, Fort Resolution, Fort Simpson, Trout Lake, Wrigley, Fort Liard, Nahanni Butte and Tulita.	March 2011		Field work and community discussions are complete for Hay River, Hay River Reserve, Fort Resolution, Fort Simpson, Trout Lake, Wrigley, Fort Liard, Nahanni Butte and Tulita. Contractors are completing the final plans.
	4.8.1.3. Develop FireSmart interface fire management plans for Fort McPherson, Behchoko, Yellowknife, Whati, Nahanni Butte, Colville Lake and Deline.	FireSmart plans for each of Fort McPherson, Behchoko, Yellowknife, Whati, Lutsel K'e, Colville Lake and Deline.	March 2012		Workplans are complete for Community Wildland Interface fire management planning for Fort McPherson, Behchoko, Yellowknife, Whati, Lutsel K'e, Colville Lake and Deline. An RFP is being issued to secure a qualified contractor to complete the work in 2012-2013.

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			Original	Revised	
	4.8.1.4 Develop a new inter-jurisdictional multi-year research plan to identify and address research gaps in community protection.	Community protection multi-year research plan	December 2009	March 2011	Work is underway on the research plan, which includes research work at the Fort Providence research site and cooperative ventures with partner agencies, to address wildland fire research in terms of community protection.
4.8.2 Forest Renewal	*4.8.2.1 Prepare a Strategy for Forest Renewal in the NWT to ensure sustainable use of forest resources.*	Strategy for Forest Renewal in the NWT	June 2009	March 2012	A draft Forest Renewal Strategy has been received from contract specialists. A Forest Management specialist is reviewing the recommendations and will prepare an implementation plan. The project completion has been delayed due to staff turnover in the function within the program.
4.9 Managing Forest Resources	*4.9.1 Develop a forest management plan for management of forest resources in the Gwich'in Settlement Region (GSR).*	GSR Forest Management Plan	June 2009	March 2011	The Gwich'in Forest Management Plan: A Framework for Forest Management has been completed. ENR is waiting for advice from the Gwich'in Tribal Council that an approval process may be initiated. ENR is prepared to proceed as soon as advice is received.

* Spring (March 20 – June 20) Summer (June 21 – September 22) Fall (September 23- December 21) Winter (December 22 – March 19)

5. Protect Territorial Waters

Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Timeline		Status
			Original	Revised	
5.0 Protect Territorial Waters	*5.0.1 Compile NWT transboundary water data for use in future transboundary agreement negotiations, based upon concerns and issues identified.*	Technical information report	December 2009	April 2011	Considerable background work has been compiled by a GNWT/federal working group. Additional information will continue to be shared with Alberta, with the negotiations phase commencing in April 2011.
	5.0.2 Engage Aboriginal governments, Land and Water Boards and others to develop a NWT water stewardship strategy to address concerns and issues.	NWT Water Stewardship Strategy	June 2009	May 2010	✓ **Completed** NWT Water Stewardship Strategy was tabled in the NWT Legislature in May 2010 and is now available publicly.
	5.0.3 Work with interested parties to identify appropriate aquatic ecosystem approaches, including indicators that will help in monitoring NWT values at risk.	Aquatic Ecosystem Approach	December 2010	February/March 2011	A draft GNWT discussion paper is in the process of being finalized. Planning for a Community Workshop in Fort Smith and a Western Science Workshop in Yellowknife is underway with focus on the Slave River and Slave River Delta.
	5.0.4 Complete transboundary waters agreements negotiations for Peace-Athabasca-Slave watersheds.	Bilateral Water Management Agreements (AB-NWT primary)	December 2011	AB-NWT Bilateral December 2012	A Bilateral Water Management Agreements Guidance Document to inform the bilateral process is complete. Preparations are underway to prepare for negotiating an Alberta-NWT bilateral agreement. A negotiations schedule is being developed among parties. Information gathering has taken longer than expected hence starting information sharing and negotiating has been delayed to Spring 2011.

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Initiative	Action	Deliverable	Timeline Original	Timeline Revised	Status
	5.0.5 Work with the Federal Government, Land and Water Boards, communities and others to develop an implementation plan and inter-jurisdictional agreement, and implement the endorsed Canada-Wide Strategy for Municipal Wastewater Effluent.	Implementation Plan and Inter-Jurisdictional Agreement	March 2011		A Northern Working Group has been formed and work is underway to facilitate communications between F/P/T parties. Planning continues towards implementation of the Canada-Wide Strategy in the North in conjunction with Northern Research Working Group activities. Criteria for calculation of risk level for wastewater facilities in the North are being determined.
	5.0.6 Develop effective resources, management and assessment tools, like catchment area maps, to help NWT communities manage risk to watersheds that are the source for public water supplies.	Community risk assessment tools	June 2012		Work continues towards establishing appropriate methods. Community catchment area maps are being revised, and a model source water protection plan is being developed. These deliverables will be made available to communities. Pilot community-based monitoring initiatives linked to source water protection are being established collaboratively with several communities.
	5.0.7 Complete transboundary waters agreements negotiations to address the Hay River and Great Slave watersheds.	Bilateral water management agreements with Alberta, in association with British Columbia and Saskatchewan	December 2012		A Bilateral Water Management Agreements Guidance Document was completed in the fall of 2009. The NWT (led by ENR and INAC) are now preparing for negotiations of a bilateral agreement with Alberta. Completion of the transboundary water agreement for the Peace Athabasca-Slave Watersheds has experienced some delays, which may affect the timeline for this agreement.

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